



A-Z of fundraising Ideas

A is for - Assault Course, for those who fancy a challenge, you can sign up for many assault course challenges across the country raising funds in the process through sponsorship. Abseil, Abstain from Alcohol, chocolate or your favourite vice. Afternoon tea, Auction of Promises – where people offer goods or services to be auctioned such as cleaning your car, haircut, chauffeur for the day. Angling competition – pay to enter, prize for the biggest fish or most unusual catch.

B is for – Bucket collection, organise your own collection at a local supermarket or attraction. Many places offer dates throughout the year and can be arranged by a simple telephone call or popping into the shop. Bake off cake competition, pay to enter than sell slices, Bike Challenge, you set the distance, Book Sales (World Book Day March), Barn Dance, BBQ. Bath in Baked beans or jelly. Bring and Buy Sale. Beer Festival, Balloon Race, Bed Push, Board game evening.

C is for – Caption competition - you need a group of at least 25 people. Get a photo of your club chair man, CEO or Head teacher doing something unusual and then get everyone to submit a caption for £1. Winner gets 50% of the proceeds. Car Wash, Car boot sale, Coffee morning, Concerts. Calendar – produce your own calendar, Charity Ball, Classic Car Show, Crossword contest - Compile a huge crossword, so people pay per clue. Each number hides a ticket for prize draw.

D is for – Dress down day – an easy way to fundraise at work, wear what you want for a donation. Dances - organise a disco, ceilidh, ballroom, salsa or 70's night. You need a venue, band/ DJ and a drinks license (if you are selling alcohol.) Dog walking charge your neighbours, Darts match, charge to enter, offer chicken and chips and organise a raffle. Duck race, buy plastic ducks, number them and race down a river (gain permission from the landowner).

E is for – Exhibition – get your local art and craft groups, school children to exhibit their work, charge entry and offer refreshments. Easter Hunt – put out clues for children to follow to find letters to make a word associated to Easter with a small prize at the end.

F is for – Fancy Dress days – wearing purple, silly hats, superhero costumes, non-uniform days, Fashion show – get children to design and make an outfit, charge entry, buy clothes from a charity shop, get friends to model them and auction off the outfits or sell the items of clothing separately, offer refreshments. Festivals, fetes and fundays, Family events, Fun runs either organise your own or book a place on an officially run event. Football Tournament, 50 – 50 raffle, winner wins half the total collected. £5 into £50 - Give friends or volunteer fundraisers a sum of money (£5) and a time limit (three months) to increase this by devising a money-generating activity. Ideas include: planting vegetable seeds and selling produce; baking and selling cakes; backing the Derby winner; investing. Award prizes for the most ingenious idea.

G is for – Grow a crazy beard/moustache, Guess the.....weight of, name of, number of.....this could be number of sweets, buttons or beads in a jar, number of balloons in a car, weight of a cake, name of a teddy. Garden party – open your garden to your community, have stalls, games, offer refreshments and sell plants. Golf open days - get a golf club to sponsor the event for you, invite club members and local businesspeople for the tournament. Organise a raffle and auction in the evening as well. Greek night - lay on

Greek food, wine and dancing in your local village hall. Guy Fawkes Party – if you have a large garden organise a firework display, charge entry, offer refreshments including hot chocolate or soup. Have a Guy scarecrow competition with best Guy winning a prize. Garage Sale.

H is for – Head and Tails auction - good to do at a dinner evening. Get everyone to stand up and pass a bucket around collecting people's change (although encourage £5 notes). Everyone decides whether they're heads or tails by putting a hand on their head or their bottom. Flip a coin on stage and announce the results. Those who get it wrong sit down. Continue until only one person is left. Winner gets a prize. Halloween Party – use a room in a local pub to host a fancy dress party, charge entry fee, organise games, food and a raffle. Head/beard shave – if you are renowned for having a lot of hair or a long beard why not do something crazy!

I is for – Individual donations – an hours pay, pledges. International evenings – food, music, entertainment. Ironing – offer to do peoples ironing for a fee. Left Handed day – do everything with your left hand and be sponsored.

J is for – Jumble sale, Jigsaw Marathon – Charge an entry fee. Each person has a jigsaw and is timed to see how long it takes to complete. Once all are completed, the jigsaws are passed onto the next team and so this continues until all jigsaws have been completed. The winner is awarded a small prize. Joke-athon - Have your friends in stitches with a joke-athon. How long can you keep your friends laughing? If the jokes are really bad, make them pay a fee to leave.

K is for – Knit the longest scarf and be sponsored by the inch or knit items to sell at Bazaars and fetes, Karaoke night, It's a Knockout – get together teams and organise some crazy games.

L is for - Local challenges - fun runs and marathons, why not register and get sponsored by friends, family and colleagues.

M is for – Mother's Day Afternoon tea, Mile of Pennies – find somewhere interesting like a park and get passing public to add loose change to the chain. Memory tree – use cardboard hearts, get people make a donation, write a message to a loved one and hang on a tree.

N is for – Nearly-new-sale, New Year's eve party, netball tournament, Non-uniform day. National Days – Doughnut week, British Sandwich week could be an opportunity to raise funds.

O is for – Onesie day – wear a onesie to work for a small donation. Outgrown exchange – sell children's clothes, books and toys, charge entry. Oddjob Day – charge for doing odd jobs around the house.

P is for – Plant sale – get colleagues to take cuttings from their gardens and sell them in the office or at a local fete. Pancake day, Pet show (National Pet Month April).

Q is for – Quiz night – compile questions on music, general knowledge or other specialist subjects, provide refreshments and food. Quintessentially British day – Afternoon tea, Fish & Chips, Red, white & blue, British games, fancy dress competition.

R is for – Raffle – ask local companies to provide prizes and raffle them off. Race nights, Recipe book – get everyone in the office, community group or children at school to write their favourite recipe, compile, print and sell to family and friends. Recycle - Recycling for Good Causes specialise in converting unwanted items into money for charities. Just get in touch to let them know what you want to recycle - 0800 633 5323 or info@recyclingforgoodcauses.org

S is for – Soapbox Derby – organise your own event and build your own Go kart. Stand up bingo - sell bingo cards around the room, each with one number on it. Ask all the participants to stand up. Spin the balls and when a number is called that person has to sit down. The last one standing scoops the prize. Swimathon – have different distance targets for different abilities. Supper club – invite guests to your home, cook them a meal and charge them entry or get them to donate what they feel the meal was worth. Sponsored silence, Skydive.

T is for – Treasure Hunt, Tea Party, Table Top Sale, Tombola - Get friends and family to donate gifts and organise a tombola. Only numbers ending in 0 or 5 will win a prize!

U is for - Unwanted Gifts Amnesty– get friends and colleagues to donate unwanted birthday and Christmas presents put them into a charity auction, raffle or online auction site like Ebay. Undies on the outside – wear your undies outside you're your clothes.

V is for - Vegetable Growing Competition pay to enter, win prizes for wonkiest or largest veg. Valentines Dinner.

W is for – Walk on hot coals, World meal – starter from India, main from Thailand, dessert from Italy, decorate the room with flags and interesting facts about the countries.

X is for – Xmas card substitution – donate to your charity rather than send Xmas cards. Xmas Card Donation Tree – get colleagues to forgo buying Xmas cards for everyone in the office and instead donate to the charity, cut out some cardboard baubles and get them to write an Xmas message, display on a cardboard Xmas tree. X-Factor Competition – get talented friends and colleagues to show off their talents, have a 'pay to leave' policy if it gets bad.

Y is for – Yes Day – say yes to everything you are asked (within reason) and be sponsored to do so.

Z is for – Zumba-thon – join in an organised event or organise your own with your local leisure centre or gym. Zoo Quiz – base your quiz around zoological questions, get people to dress up as animals, charge an entry fee. Zany Clothes day – Turn up to work in a ballgown or clashing patterns charge a fee to join in.

Good Luck with your fundraising ideas, we appreciate all your support. Please get in touch if you have any questions. mike@jamiecarragher.org

We would love to hear your fundraising stories please email us a photo so we can upload it to our website.

